GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4170
ANSWERED ON:28.03.2017
Population of Wild Animals
Sharma Shri Jugal Kishore

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of increase in the population of wild animals in some forest areas;
(b) whether the Government has received complaints from farmers regarding attack on them by wild animals in their fields; and
(c) if so, the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE)

(a) Yes, Sir. There has been increase in the population of certain wild animals in some areas of the forest.

(b) Complaints have been received from various state governments regarding attacks on farmers by the wild animals in their fields.

(c) In order to support farmers and victims of depredations/attacks by wild animals, State Governments provide ex-gratia relief for farmers in respect of damage to crops and loss of human lives from their own funds as well from the assistance provided by Central Government. The amount of ex-gratia relief eligible for assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes for payment to the victims of predation/depredation by wild animals is at Annexure.

Further, the Central Government provides financial assistance to State/Union Territory Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of "Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats", "Project Tiger" and 'Project Elephant" for the management of wildlife and its habitats in the country, which inter alia helps in preventing human-animal conflict and support the farmers. The activities supported under the Schemes inter alia include construction /erection of physical barriers, such as barbed wire fence, solar powered electric fence, bio-fencing using cactus, boundary walls etc. to prevent the entry of wild animals into crop fields; improvement of wildlife habitat of wild animals by augmenting the availability of food and water in forest areas to reduce the entry of animals from forests to habitations and setting up of anti-depredation squads to drive away problematic animals.

Ministry on 24th December, 2014 issued an advisory to the States highlighting the legal provisions under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to deal with the human-wildlife conflict situations. Vide this advisory, Ministry has also sought proposals from State/Union Territory Governments, after objective assessment of the situation with details of the areas in which notification under section 62 of the Act, declaring any wild animals in Schedule V for specified period, could be helpful in management of conflict.

Based on the proposals from the state of Bihar, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand such notification have been issued for listing wild pig in Uttarakhand, monkeys in Himachal Pradesh and Nilgai and wild pig in Bihar in Schedule V of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

The Ministry of Agriculture in consultation with MOEF has issued an Advisory in March 2012 for the management of Blue Bulls in the country. This Advisory, inter-alia, indicates various strategies and options for the mitigation of blue bull conflict situations.
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